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TAGS: [AEMR](#) [ASEC](#) [KPAO](#) [CMGT](#) [LE](#) [CY](#) [KFLO](#) [CASC](#) [AMGT](#)

SUBJECT: TFLE01: CYPRUS SITREP 02 AS OF 1830 LOCAL,
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2006

REF: NICOSIA 1166

Classified By: DCM Jane B. Zimmerman, reasons 1.4 B/D

¶1. (S) Summary: Nicosia coordination team met at 1700 local time with latest updates on ships and accommodation for incoming U.S. citizens. By July 20, under a best-case scenario, Embassy expects to have received almost 2700 U.S. citizens total since the Combined Task Force (CTF) began operations.

POL/MIL

¶2. (S) The following are Pol/Mil updates:

--Support and cooperation from Government of Cyprus (GOC) and Cypriot authorities is excellent. They are meeting all our requests to the best of their ability, despite limited resources.

--DAO has lead on an overall "thru-put" strategy for Americans arriving from Beirut to leave Cyprus. It includes logistical arrangements for receiving approximately 2,000 U.S. citizens per day beginning July 20. The strategy's elements include consular affairs, public affairs, medical support, and logistical coordination.

CONSULAR

¶3. (S) The following are consular updates:

--Embassy Nicosia is planning as of July 19 to send three CONS officers daily by helicopter to assist Embassy Beirut.

--Between now and July 20, Embassy Nicosia is expecting to receive the following numbers of U.S. citizens:

300 via Hoegh Norwegian transport (expected Larnaca arrival July 19, 0230L)
120/day via helicopter by Beirut Air Bridge (BAB)
750 via MV Orient Queen (expected Larnaca arrival July 19 1900L)
1400 via Sandcak/S (expected Larnaca arrival July 19 evening)
100 via Canadian ship (name unknown, approximate Larnaca arrival July 20)(per CMS Taskforce email)
unknown number (up to 1,000) via landing craft as early as July 19 from the USS Nashville (per DAO)
unknown number via UK Carrier Strike Group (approximate Cyprus arrival July 19)(per CMS Taskforce email)

--Three unaccompanied minors are expected to arrive on helicopters July 18 evening; Nicosia consular operations are in touch with parents who are arriving from Italy tomorrow.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

¶4. (U) The following are public affairs updates:

--Our message: (1) Doing all we can to help fellow Americans return home; (2) thank you for support from the Cypriots and all others on the ground.

--Public Affairs Section office in Larnaca now operating, number is (357) 24-846-746.

ECONOMIC/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

¶5. (U) The following are economic/administrative affairs updates:

--Permanent Secretary Lazaro Savvides at the Ministry of Interior (and Cyprus Airways Chairman) contacted Cyprus Civil Defense to obtain the use of 500 cots and blankets at the Cyprus International Fairgrounds. Embassy ADMIN section estimates the Fairgrounds will be set up and equipped by July 19 afternoon. Until then, hotel space in Larnaca and Limassol should meet our needs.

--The Red Cross has donated diapers and sanitary napkins. Embassy is arranging for their transport to Fairgrounds and Larnaca.

--Embassy Nicosia travel agent will be present at Larnaca seaport July 19 early morning to assist passengers arriving via Hoegh Norwegian transport. The Cyprus Tourism Office (CTO) is also planning to place travel agents at the Larnaca seaport.

SECURITY

¶6. (S) The following are security updates:

--RSO has requested police presence at the Cyprus International Fairgrounds and at the ports. It has conducted security surveys at all locations where U.S. citizens will gather and is in regular contact with local police.

--Approximately 150 demonstrators gathered at the Israeli Embassy July 18. Another protest is planned in the city center tomorrow.

SCHLICHER